

November 2, 2004

The Honorable George Dorn Interim Executive Director South Carolina Public Service Commission Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: South Carolina Public Service Commission Docket No. 2004-267-E

Dear Mr. Dorn:

Enclosed are the original and ten (10) copies of Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc.'s Petition to Intervene in the above-referenced docket. All parties have been served in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

Len S. Anthony

Deputy General Counsel-Regulatory Affairs

LSA:mhm

Enclosures

c: All parties of record

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ACCEPTED
Legal AS 11-5-67

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2004-267-E

In the Matter of)	PROGRESS ENERGY	13
Petition of Columbia Energy, LLC for a)	CAROLINAS, INC.'S PETITION	TO
Declaratory Order Concerning Agreement With)	INTERVENE	
SCE&G for Waiver of Qualifying Facility Status)		

NOW COMES, Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. ("PEC") pursuant to Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") Rules 103-830 and 103-836, and petitions the Commission to enter an order permitting it to intervene and fully participate in the above captioned proceeding. In support thereof, PEC shows the following:

- 1. PEC is an electric utility organized, existing and operating under the laws of the State of North Carolina, authorized to do business in South Carolina, for the purposes of generating, transmitting, distributing and selling electric power in its service territory in North and South Carolina. Its principal office is located at 410 South Wilmington Street, Post Office Box 1551, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602.
- 2. The attorneys for PEC, to whom all communications and pleadings should be addressed are:

Len S. Anthony Kendal Bowman Progress Energy Service Company, LLC Post Office Box 1551 Raleigh, North Carolina 27602 Telephone: (919) 546-6367

3. Columbia Energy LLC owns and operates a natural gas-fired, combined cycle electric generation facility in Calhoun County, South Carolina. Apparently, prior to the hearing regarding Columbia Energy's petition for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Convenience and Necessity in Commission Docket No. 2000-487-E to construct the plant, SCE&G and Columbia Energy entered into a confidential agreement pursuant to which in consideration for Columbia Energy's promise not to assert its purported right as a Qualifying

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Facility under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 ("PURPA") to require SCE&G to purchase the out put of the plant, SCE&G promised not to oppose Columbia Energy's petition for a certificate. Also, during the hearing in Docket No. 2000-487-E, Columbia Energy represented to the Commission that it would operate as a "merchant" facility, that is, it would not attempt to force utilities to purchase the facility's electricity under PURPA. SCE&G honored its promise and by Order No. 2001-108, Columbia Energy was granted a certificate. The certificate granted by Order No. 2001-108 was for a 500MW plant.

- 4. On September 10, 2004, Columbia Energy filed a Petition for Declaratory Order with the Commission asking the Commission to declare that the confidential agreement referred to in paragraph 3 above is invalid and unenforceable. SCE&G responded by asserting that if Columbia Energy is now seeking to obtain Commission approval to breach its agreement with SCE&G, the Commission should either revoke Columbia Energy's certificate or schedule a hearing to consider such a revocation.
- 5. Columbia Energy has contacted PEC repeatedly during 2004 and demanded that PEC purchase power from this plant pursuant to PURPA. PEC does not need the capacity of the plant in question in order to meet its customers' needs. In addition, due to transmission constraints, this power cannot be relied upon to serve peak load. Regarding PEC purchasing just the energy from this plant, PEC has advised Columbia Energy that it would be willing to purchase some of the energy generated by this facility provided Columbia Energy agreed to rates, and certain terms and conditions, that protect PEC's system and customers. PEC cannot accept the energy produced by this plant during many of the hours during the year without impacting the reliability of its system and/or increasing PEC's cost to serve its customers. Furthermore, given that the facility constructed by Columbia Energy is larger than that allowed by its certificate, there is the strong possibility that it will attempt to force PEC to purchase more energy than the plant is certificated to produce. Therefore, if the Commission revokes or revises Columbia Energy's certificate this will directly impact PEC.
- 6. Thus, PEC has a substantial interest in this proceeding. PEC supports SCE&G's position that if Columbia Energy now wishes to repudiate the representations it made prior to and during the certificate proceeding, which were relied upon by SCE&G and the Commission, its certificate should be revoked.

WHEREFORE, PEC respectfully requests the Commission to enter an order:

- 1. Allowing it to intervene and fully participate in the above captioned proceeding, including the right to examine and cross-examine witnesses, to file briefs and orally argue its positions before the Commission and to otherwise exercise all statutory rights provided to intervenors under South Carolina law.
- 2. Adopting such positions concerning the substantial matters at issue in the above captioned proceeding as PEC may argue and present to the Commission.
- 3. Awarding PEC such other and further relief as the Commission may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this the 2nd day of November, 2004.

PROGRESS ENERGY CAROLINAS, INC.

Len S. Anthony

Kendal Bowman

Associate General Counsel

Post Office Box 1551

Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-1551

Telephone: (919) 546-6367

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Len S. Anthony, hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc.'s Petition to Intervene in SCPSC Docket No. 2004-267-E, by deposit in the United States mail, first-class postage prepaid, on the following:

Frank R. Ellerbe, III, Esquire Robinson, McFadden & Moore, P.C. Robinson McFadden & Moore, P.C. Post Office Box 944 Columbia, SC, 2920

Mitchell M. Willoughby, Esquire Willoughby & Hoefer, PA PO Box 8416 Columbia, SC, 29201 Catherine D. Taylor, Associate General Counsel SCANA CORPORATION SCANA Corp.
1426 Main Street, 13th Floor Columbia, SC, 29201

This the 2nd day of November, 2004.

PROGRESS ENERGY CAROLINAS, INC.

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